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9. Several communications from the secretary *pro tem.* of the executive committee for the proposed federation of American biological societies were read and a resolution was adopted stating that the American Association for the Advancement of Science approves the general aims and purposes of the proposed federation, and wishes to cooperate with the federation in all possible ways.

10. A communication recommending action by the association, on the subject of proposed changes in the copyright laws of the United States, was received from Dr. M. L. Raney, librarian of the Johns Hopkins University. The questions thus raised were referred to a special committee, consisting of: Dr. C. L. Andrews, *chairman* (librarian of the John Crerar Library, Chicago); Dr. W. W. Bishop (librarian of the University of Michigan); and Dr. John M. Coulter (head of the department of botany, the University of Chicago), and this committee was requested to make recommendations to the council at the Boston meeting.

11. A communication from Dr. Charles B. Lipman (University of California), writing for the Board of Research of the University of California, and one from Dr. C. A. Kofoed (also of the University of California) were read, regarding the great present need for the preparation and publication of an up-to-date list of serial publications in science, with annotations. The executive committee expressed its approval of these communications but was obliged to defer definite action on this subject till some way may be found by which the association may be able to aid this important project.

12. A communication was received from Dr. Henry B. Ward (of the University of Illinois), recommending that the association adopt a general resolution strongly favoring the scrupulous and complete preservation of the national parks of the United States and Canada, against any form of desecration by any commercial interest. Such a resolution was adopted; its text will appear later in SCIENCE.

13. The permanent secretary was authorized to conduct an intensive membership campaign

in the states of New England and New York, just preceding the next annual meeting, this campaign to be based on a special request addressed to every member resident in the specified region, asking him to secure two or more new members for the association.

14. It was unanimously voted that the permanent secretary be instructed to cable and write to Sir Ernest Rutherford, president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, inviting him to attend the fourth Boston meeting and to deliver an address, probably on Thursday evening, December 28, with the understanding that the association would meet his expenses.

15. The committee adjourned at 6:30, to meet at Boston, at 10 A.M., December 26. The evening was spent in an informal discussion of the affairs and prospects of the association.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,
Permanent Secretary

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

Publications. About 6,200 copies of the "Booklet of Information" have been sent to prospective members. About 6,500 copies of a four-page leaflet have been sent to the medical men of New England, inviting them to become members of the association. At the end of September a calendar card, emphasizing the association year (October 1 to September 30) was sent to each member with the statement of his dues. About 11,700 copies were sent out. Along with the calendar card went an explanatory leaflet on membership.

Circularization for new members. During the fiscal year 1922, 23,933 invitations to join the association were sent to members of affiliated societies. The cards show that 1,114 new members have thus far been secured in this way. The invitations sent out in the circularization of non-members listed in "American

1 A summary of the annual report of the permanent secretary, on the affairs of the association, for the period from October 1, 1921, to September 30, 1922. Presented to the Executive Committee at New York City on October 21, 1922.

Men of Science" numbered 4,370, and 106 new members have been secured from that group. All members of the Society of Sigma Xi have the privilege of joining the American Association for the Advancement of Science without paying the usual entrance fee, but it has thus far been found impossible to send a special invitation to each of these, on account of difficulty in securing the membership lists of all chapters of the society. All members of the society who are not already members of the association are asked to send their names and addresses and the names of their respective chapters, to the permanent secretary's Washington office. He will send them literature that will be of interest. At the close of the fiscal year 1922, about 16,200 special invitations to join the association were sent to members of affiliated societies. About 6,500 of these invitations went to medical men in New England.

Organization. Each section secretary has received a card list of the members enrolled in his section, with a cabinet for holding the cards. These lists are duplicated in the Washington office, and both sets are kept up to date by additions and alterations.

Each section secretary has been asked to secure a mail ballot of his section committee, for at least two nominations for vice-president and chairman of his section, these nominations to be returned to the Washington office, for the use of the council, on a special blank. It will be remembered that the sections nominate, and the council elects, section chairmen and section secretaries. When a section holds a business session, the nominations secured from the section committee are to be acted on by the section as a whole. More than one nomination is to be presented to the council, in order that the latter body may have opportunity for choice. The council needs also to know how the votes stood in the section committee.

A constitution for the proposed federation of American biological societies was adopted at the Woods Hole meeting, August 4, of the *pro tem.* executive committee for the federation, at which meeting Dr. Herbert Osborn very kindly represented the association. The proposed constitution has been submitted to the council of

the association, and should be considered at the Boston meeting, when it will be necessary to decide whether the association will become a member of the new federation. The constitution has been published in *SCIENCE* (Vol. LVI, No. 1448, p. 359, September 29, 1922). The *pro tem.* committee voted that the aim of the federation would be to make use of the organization of the association, avoiding the duplication of organization wherever possible. It is emphasized by the secretary of the *pro tem.* committee that the main activities of the federation are apt to concern publications, not the organization of meetings. The *pro tem.* committee expressed its thanks to the association for the financial help received in connection with the Woods Hole meeting, and requests the association to continue help of this kind during the formative period of the federation. A similar request has been made of the National Research Council. Copies of the proposed constitution for the federation have been sent by the permanent secretary to all members of the section committees of the four biological sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, together with letters asking each member to write to his section secretary in regard to the proposed federation and the attitude that should be taken by the association toward it, a carbon copy of each letter being also sent to the permanent secretary's office. A number of replies have been received and the permanent secretary hopes, with the aid of the four section secretaries concerned, to make a report on this matter to the Executive Committee at the first committee session of the Boston meeting. All members of the biological sections are invited to write to the proper section secretary in this connection, sending copies of their letters to the permanent secretary. To be considered in his report, letters should be in the section secretary's hands before December 1.

Divisions, Local Branch and Affiliated Academies. The membership and financial relations, between the association and the divisions, the local branch and the affiliated academies, are shown for the last three years in the following tabulation:

	PACIFIC DIVISION			SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION			STATE COLLEGE BRANCH	AFFILIATED ACADEMIES		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922	1922	1920	1921	1922
Total number of members, end of year....	.....	1,190	1,278	.....	156	176	52	851	1,437	1,488
Number of new members received during year .....	.....	33	61	.....	57	34	20	.....	182	101
Allowances made during year.....	\$1,784	\$1,007	\$1,126	\$108	\$131	\$149	\$27	\$818	\$1,141	\$1,328

Membership. The increase in membership since September 30, 1920, is summarized in the following tabulation:

	Sept. 30, 1920	Sept. 30, 1921	Sept. 30, 1922
Number of members in good standing..	10,002	10,160	10,566
Total enrollment.....	11,442	11,547	11,646
Changes in membership occurring in the fiscal year 1922 are shown below:			
	Sept. 30, 1921	Sept. 30, 1922	
Total enrollment.....	11,547	11,646	
Number of sustaining members	3	3	
Number of life members.....	346	352	
Number of annual members, paid up.....	9,811	10,211	
Total in good standing.....	10,160	10,566	
Number of members in arrears for two years.....	705	455	
Number of members in arrears for one year.....	682	625	
Total enrollment.....	11,547	11,646	
Gain in membership, October 1, 1921, to September 30, 1922:			
Reinstatements		33	
New members (11 life, 1,209 annual)		1,220	
Total gain.....			1,253
Loss in membership, October 1, 1921, to September 30, 1922:			
Dropped because of non-payment of dues		705	
Resigned		362	
Died		87	
Total loss			1,154
Net gain, October 1, 1921, to September 30, 1922			94
Transfers from annual to life membership....			4

Special attention may be directed to the marked increase in paid-up membership for the last two years, owing to the very efficient work of the executive assistant and his staff. Paid-up membership for the three years 1920, 1921 and 1922 was 10,002, 10,160 and 10,566. The rate of increase in paid-up membership from 1920 to 1921 was about 50.5 per cent.

higher than was the corresponding rate of increase in total membership. From 1921 to 1922 the rate of increase in paid-up membership was about four times as great as was the corresponding total membership rate of increase. It seems that membership in good standing is a much better index of our growth than is total membership, and this feature is very gratifying.

Financial Affairs. The permanent secretary's annual financial report for the fiscal year 1922 will be published in *SCIENCE* after the annual meeting, at which time a statement regarding the permanent secretary's budget for 1923 will be made.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,
Permanent Secretary

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONVOCATION WEEK¹

THE committee on convocation week appointed by the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the Toronto meeting, and consisting of J. McKeen Cattell, Chairman, Herbert S. Jennings, J. Playfair McMurrie, Eliakim Hastings Moore and Edwin Bidwell Wilson, begs to report as follows:

Twenty years ago the first convocation week meeting of our national scientific societies was held in Washington, from December 29, 1902, to January 3, 1903. Prior to that time the American Association for the Advancement of Science with the societies affiliated with it had

¹ This report has been presented to the executive committee and approved. It is printed in advance of the Boston meeting in order that consideration may be given to the recommendations that are made prior to their presentation to the council.